Claims

The July 1, 2003, communication sets forth four purported groups: Group I, represented by claims 1-9 and 12-16; Group II, represented by claims 10-11; Group III, represented by claims 17-19; and Group IV, represented by claim 20.

Please cancel Groups II, represented by claims 10-11; Group III, represented by claims 17-19; and Group IV, represented by claim 20.

Remarks/Election

Applicant hereby elects for further prosecution of claims 1-9 and 12-16, which are the claims of Group I according to the Examiner's classification. Applicant has canceled the nonelected claims of Group II, represented by claims 10-11; Group III, represented by claims 17-19; and Group IV, represented by claim 20, although Applicant reserves his right to file a divisional application directed to the subject matter of the nonelected claims prior to the issuance of a patent on those claims elected for further prosecution at this time.

An action on the merits is solicited.

Although Applicant believes that this Amendment does not result in additional fees, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be due, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-2112. A duplicate copy of this letter is also enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

an M. Dickman

Jean M. Dickman

Reg. No. 48,538

SHOOK, HARDY & BACON L.L.P. One Kansas City Place 1200 Main Street Kansas City, Missouri 64105-2118

Tel.: 816/474-6550 Fax: 816/421-5547

Serial No.: 10/002,842 Filed: November 14, 2001